IDW

39

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

STANLEY • CURRY • KEANE • HERMS

SEGA®

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

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STORY SO FAR

WE'RE IN A WEIRD BUBBLE WHERE EGGMAN'S MESSING WITH PHYSICS, I THINK.

IS IT SOME SORT OF TRAP?

I AM A *BADNIK*.

BUT I... I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYONE. I JUST NEED ANSWERS. AND THE ONLY PERSON WHO WOULD KNOW IS DR. EGGMAN.

SONIC AND TAILS VOUCHED FOR YOU, SO YOU'RE ALRIGHT IN MY BOOK. BESIDES...

...IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU CAME FROM, BECAUSE YOU'RE TRYING TO DO *GOOD* TODAY.

DON'T WORRY, I'M SURE WE CAN FIND YOU SOME ANSWERS.

SONIC, THE WHOLE STREET'S FULL OF BADNIKS--THERE'RE TOO MANY FOR US TO HANDLE HEAD-ON!

SO WE'RE STUCK IN HERE WITH NO ROOM TO RUN--FANTASTIC.

...NOW I GET TO TEST MY TOYS ON SOME *REAL* DUMMIES!

HO HO HO HO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

The Blue Blur.
Fastest Thing Alive.

AMY ROSE

Hammer-swinging Heroine.
Restoration ally.

MILES "TAILS" PROWER

Tech-savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.

TANGLE THE LEMUR

Excitable Hero.
Elastic-tailed brawler.

COME ON, LET'S KEEP THE TEST CHAMBER SUPPLIED!

NEW MONSTROSITIES, COMIN' RIGHT UP...

CHUNK

DING

DING

RRRR

WHADDAYA THINK IT'LL BE THIS TIME?

OOH, THAT'S A NEW ONE!

FWOOOO

I WOULDN'T WANT TO GET ON THAT GUY'S BAD SIDE.

A SURPRISINGLY EFFECTIVE COMBINATION!

HAVE FUN WREAKING HAVOC!

DO YOU THINK THEY'RE SENDING THOSE THINGS AFTER SONIC AND THE OTHERS...?

I GOT THIS. SIT TIGHT AND WATCH A MASTER AT WORK!

HMM...

...NOT THE BEST.

MAYBE IT'LL GET A HIT IN IF IT FLAILS EXTRA HARD?

FWIP

OH, DEAR--I SPENT FOUR HOURS STACKING THOSE ALPHABETICALLY!

WHY?

IT HELPS WITH MY ANXIET

AAIIEE!

SNATCH

GOTCHA! WORKS EVERY TIME... MOST OF THE TIME.

OH, *DEAR.*

THE BOSS ISN'T GONNA BE HAPPY ABOUT THIS.

WHATEVER YOU'RE UP TO, EGGMAN, IT'S NOT GONNA WORK!

ON THE CONTRARY, IT'S WORKING SPLENDIDLY!

EVERY MOVE YOU THREE MAKE, EACH TRICK OR TRAP YOU WEEDLE YOUR WAY AROUND...

...WHY, THAT'S ALL DATA ON HOW I CAN MAKE MY TECHNOLOGY *EVEN BETTER* IN THE FUTURE.

AND OH, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW YOU HANDLE WHAT I'VE BEEN COOKING UP NEXT!

WHAM

WHY DON'T YOU COME OUT, SO I CAN SHOW YOU?

CRASH

YOU GOT THAT THING CALIBRATED TO TRACK THE 'BOTS YET, BUD?

I THINK SO, YES!

THE BADNIKS' COMM SIGNALS ARE EMANATING FROM... THAT DIRECTION!

NICE! ALL ABOARD THE HEDGEHOG EXPRESS, WE'RE GETTIN' OUT OF HERE.

THOOM

THIS CAN'T BE GOOD...

AAAA

OKAY, FALLING INTO THE VOID IS OFFICIALLY POSTPONED. WHAT NOW?

I-I DON'T KNOW! I'M NOT PICKING UP ANY SORT OF UNUSUAL READINGS.

AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THINGS ARE GONNA FLIP BACK ANYTIME SOON...

...HM.

WHAT?

YOU WANT TO GO WITH IT? WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S DOWN--I MEAN, UP THERE!

HE SAID HE WANTED TO SHOW US SOMETHING, AND EGGMAN WOULD NEVER THROW AWAY A CHANCE TO SHOW OFF.

AND HE CAN'T DO THAT IF WE'RE DEAD... IT'S PLAUSIBLE.

A LEAP OF FAITH--*HOW ROMANTIC!*

I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE--OH, NEVERMIND.

YOU'D BETTER HOLD ME EXTRA-TIGHT, SONIC!

WE SHOULD'VE TRIED TO GATHER MORE EVIDENCE, OR--

STAY COOL. ANY SECOND NOW...

...HA! WHAT'D I TELL YA? ONE DRAMATIC SHOWDOWN, COMING UP.

WHAM

ALRIGHT EGGMAN, WE'RE HERE! COME ON OUT, AND LET'S GET THIS DONE.

STAY CLOSE, GUYS.

LET'S DANCE, RODENT!

TAILS!

GAH!

NOT BAD, IS IT? I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS...

THAT ONE IS *NOT* VERY CUTE.

A HIGH-VOLTAGE CHARGE LIKE THAT IS *REALLY* DANGEROUS...

I'VE DEALT WITH THIS KINDA 'BOT BEFORE.

A NEW COAT OF PAINT AND SOME NEW BELLS AND WHISTLES WON'T BE ENOUGH TO STOP ALL THREE OF US!

YEAH!

YOU THREE WON'T BE SO CONFIDENT AFTER YOU GET A LOAD OF *THIS!*

I'VE GOT THIS ONE!

PIKO

NICE! LET'S FOLLOW IT UP, TAILS!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM

ZAK

ARE YOU OKAY?

RRGH--YEAH. CAN YOU GET ME A CLEAR SHOT OF THE COCKPIT?

I'LL TRY...!

CRASH

LIKE I SAID, NO MATCH FOR US! MIGHT AS WELL CALL IT QUITS NOW, DOC.

BUT WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!

EHH?!

THAT'S ONE POINT FOR YOU... LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO IN ROUND TWO!

GAH HA HA!

BLAM

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?!

I DUNNO, BUT WHATEVER HE'S UP TO, I THINK THAT WAS JUST AN APPETIZER...

...GET READY FOR THE MAIN COURSE.

THREE ON THREE... NOW IT'S A *FAIR* FIGHT!

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T CRUSH YOU TOO QUICKLY...

...I HAVEN'T HAD THIS MUCH FUN IN AGES!

HA-HA!

WHO'S READY TO HEAT THINGS UP?

YOU JERK...

...YOUR PUNS AREN'T EVEN THAT GOOD!

AAH-- FIRE! HELP!

BWOOSH

SONIC! AMY!

WHEW, NICE CATCH!

WHERE'S--

--AH.

AT LEAST I'M NOT ON FIRE ANYMORE.

I'D SAY THAT'S A POINT FOR ME AND MY *GENIUS*...

"...TIME FOR THE TIE-BREAKER!"

WE'LL NEVER TELL YOU WHERE YOUR FRIENDS ARE!

OH, THAT'S FINE...

Y'KNOW, I'M BEGINNING TO HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS.

IT'D BE REALLY DANGEROUS TO TRY AND SAVE THEM. I COULD GET HURT, OR WORSE!

THAT'D BE REALLY BAD FOR ME, DON'T YOU THINK?

OH, IN THAT CASE--

NO, CUBOT! IT'S REVERSE PSYCHOLOGY, WE TALKED ABOUT THIS.

DANGIT, I WAS SURE THAT WOULD WORK.

ANY SECOND NOW, A TROOP OF EGG PAWNS WILL ARRIVE--

OH, YEAH, NO. I'VE REDIRECTED THEM.

BIP!

TANGLE, I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING.

WHO IS THAT? IS SHE ONE OF *OURS?*

I DON'T KNOW!

THIS IS A LIVE FEED.

VIPER 01

WHOA!

WE GOTTA GET IN THERE! WHERE ARE THEY? IS IT CLOSE?

I DUNNO... I CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE ON THE SCHEMATIC OF THE TOWER.

THOSE GATE-LOOKING THINGS ARE ALL OVER THIS PLACE, THOUGH.

OH, YEAH! I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONES ARE CONNECTED...

...ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE.

OBOY. LET ME SEE IF I CAN NARROW IT DOWN...

DON'T BOTHER. I'VE GOT AN IDEA.

OH! I GUESS I'D BETTER START TRYING OUT THESE GATES! HERE I GO...

...

...PSYCHI'MTRYINGTHISONE!

NOT THAT ONE!

OH? WOULD THAT BE A BAD GATE FOR ME TO GO THROUGH?

YES! I MEAN NO! I MEAN... OH, DEAR.

AND THAT'S HOW YOU GET IT DONE.

YOU KEEP AN EYE ON THESE TWO WHILE I'M IN THERE, OK?

WHILE YOU'RE-- OH, NO.

YOU'RE GOING TO JUMP INTO IT.

YUP!

ARE YOU NUTS? *GEARS AND STARTERS*, EVEN IF IT DOES GET YOU THERE, WE HAVE NO IDEA HOW IT *WORKS!*

WHAT IF YOUR MOLECULES GET SCRAMBLED, OR I DON'T KNOW, *HALF* OF YOU ENDS UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE *OCEAN* INSTEAD?!

GIVE ME A LITTLE MORE TIME WITH THIS THING, SO WE'RE SURE--

YOU SAW HOW THE FIGHT WAS GOING FOR THEM-- THEY NEED HELP *NOW*. NO TIME FOR SECOND-GUESSING.

BUT...

WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS. TRUSTING YOUR GUT AND ACCEPTING THE CONSEQUENCES IS JUST WHAT HEROES *DO*.

TRUST ME ON THIS.

...OKAY.

HERE GOES NOTHING!

NEXT TIME:
THROUGH THE GATE!

NEXT MONTH

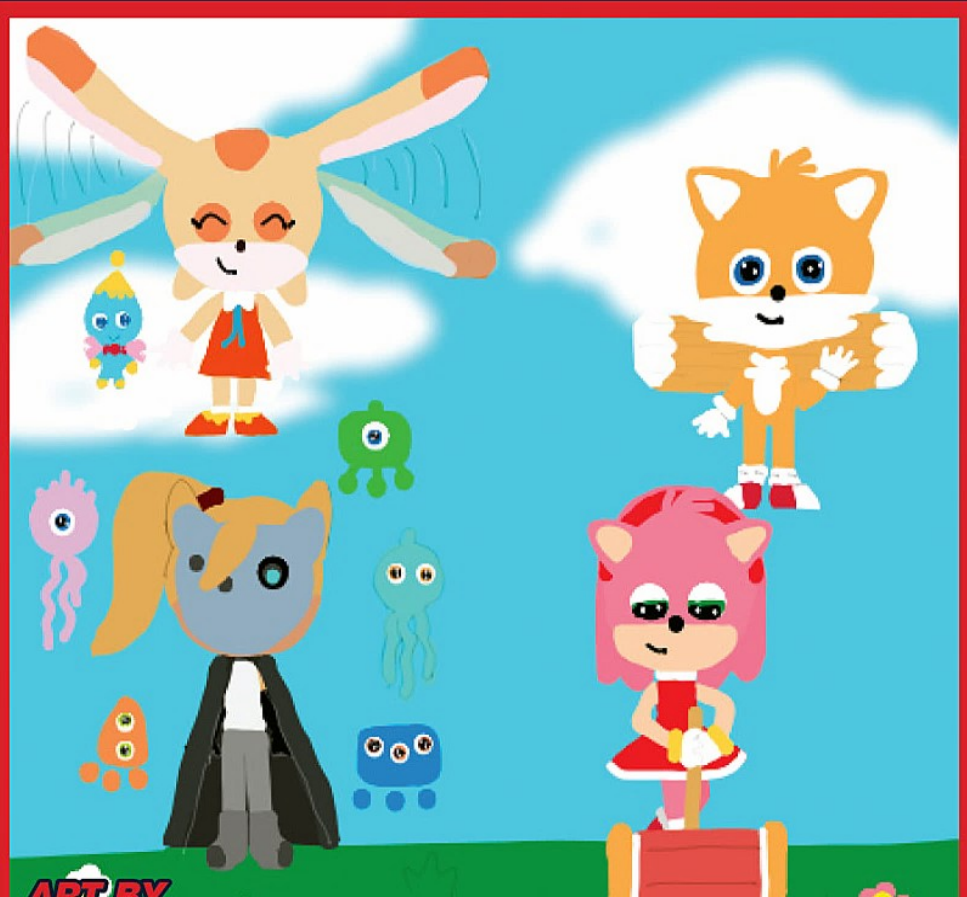
SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

Bonjour, Sonic Squad! And bon voyage to Tangle as she travels through to energy gate to save Sonic, Amy, and Tails! Thank you for joining Evan Stanley, Bracardi Curry, Maria Keane, Matt Herms, and Shawn Lee for the "Test Run," part three! Now, let's check out your art and letters and get to know a little more about cover artist Nathalie Fourdraine!

Hi, my name is Madeline.

I love the Sonic the Hedgehog comics, they make me laugh so hard like in issue nine when Tangle and Silver were playing cards, and they also surprise me like when Cream went to fight Zeena in issue twenty six.

I shrieked with joy when Sonic showed up in Blaze's dimension because my sister and I had been talking about how cool that would be, the memory lose thing was just an added bonus.



I absolutely adored the C.R.A.B.B storyline. I loved watching the Chao races and wondering why Rouge was acting strange. I think that Belle is nice. I guess she could be setting everyone up for some betrayal, but I think she is cute.

I have one question though. What will happen to all the Chao that got released in issue thirty six? Did they all go to live with Cream or did the restoration find them all homes?

So far I have adored every issue and eagerly await the next one. I wanted to draw a picture with my favorite character but I couldn't decide on which one to draw! So I decided on four.

Hi, Madeline,

I love your picture, those are some of my favorite characters, too! It's great to hear that you've enjoyed so many moments throughout the comics. Cream fighting Zeena may be one of the best, as it showed how incredibly brave she is. She will do anything for those she loves!

As for the Chao, they are safely with Vanilla and Cream for the time being. Almost like a Chao daycare! I like to imagine that Cream begged her mom to keep all the Chao, but having that many can be a handful, so they found them safe, loving, cage-free forever homes.

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, Eggman pulls out every trick in the book for Sonic and co.'s final test!

NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

1. What part of the Sonic comics do you create?

I paint the RI cover art for the comics!

2. Who's your favorite Sonic character in the IDW books?

I tend to like Rouge, Shadow, Sonic, Knuckles, and Blaze–either very serious, morally driven characters who are learning how to socialize with others, or characters that are extroverted, wild, and free to act as they please. Those are characters that I find exciting to draw and think through their emotions and actions.

3. How do you take your chili dog?

With no chili, unfortunately! I'm more of a basic ketchup-hotdog person. I have recently started to try chili and am neutral to it, though, so maybe one day I'll take the jump and make Sonic proud of me.

4. How did you first discover Sonic?

I think I first really learned about Sonic when I was nine, when I rented *Sonic Adventure 2: Battle!* After that, I played *Mega Collection* and got interested in *Sonic Adventure 1* and *CD* from there, and so on! My FIRST exposure was this really vague memory of having some kind of handheld water game toy that I THINK had *Sonic Adventure 2*'s cover art as a background on it. I must have been six or seven. It's a really vague memory…

5. What was the first IDW Sonic issue you worked on?

I was lucky to be able to make cover art for the first issue, back in 2018!

6. What's a boring fact about yourself?

I'm super obsessed with old 90's computer games (good and bad ones), and have like five terabytes of Mario lore in my brain.

7. What's your favorite comic (besides Sonic)?

Oof, honestly that's a hard one because I've been neglecting my comics reading for a while! Whenever I do catch up with comics, I'd like

8. What do you do when you're not drawing working on Sonic?

I like to take walks when I can! It's really nice just to go somewhere by myself and zone out, and I should do more of that. I also like to sit and play video games, if I get the chance.

9. What's the most unusual Sonic thing you own?

A two-foot long "& Knuckles" perler bead sign.

10. If you could go to dinner with one Sonic character, who would it be and why?

Either E-123 Omega or Sonic. I believe Omega would make a great conversation partner, and any time spent with Sonic would end up being an unpredictable chaotic adventure. (Even if I don't enjoy chili dogs.)

11. What kind of animal would you be in Sonic's universe?

Probably a cat or an owl? Owls look really cool, and I'd love to look like the old man from the Sonic OVA, but I'm also a cat person and would be inclined to have a cool tail.

ART: ABBY BULMER COLORS: JOANA LAFUENTE

ART: CICI DUTREIX

ART: NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

THEY'RE BAD.
AND THEY'RE BACK!

DR. STARLINE HAS A NEFARIOUS PLAN, BUT HE'LL HAVE TO RECRUIT SOME FAMILIAR AND NOT-SO-FRIENDLY FACES TO DO IT!

JUNE 2021

IAN FLYNN • JACK LAWRENCE

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